United Nations S/RES/1309 (2000)

Security Council

Distr.: General
25 July 2000

Resolution 1309 (2000)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 4175th meeting, on 25 July 2000

The Security Council,

Reaffirming all its previous resolutions on the Western Sahara, in particular resolutions 1108 (1997) of 22 May 1997, 1292 (2000) of 29 February 2000 and 1301 (2000) of 31 May 2000, and also its resolution 1308 (2000) of 17 July 2000,

Recalling the relevant principles contained in the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel of 9 December 1994,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General of 12 July 2000 (S/2000/683) and the observations and recommendations contained therein, and expressing full support for the role and work of the Personal Envoy,

Reiterating full support for the continued efforts exerted by the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) to implement the Settlement Plan and agreements adopted by the parties to hold a free, fair and impartial referendum for the self-determination of the people of the Western Sahara,

Noting that fundamental differences between the parties over the interpretation of the main provisions of the Settlement Plan remain to be resolved,

Regretting that there was no progress made during the meeting held in London on 28 June 2000 between the parties,

1. *Decides* to extend the mandate of MINURSO until 31 October 2000, with the expectation that the parties will meet in direct talks under the auspices of the Secretary-General's Personal Envoy to try to resolve the multiple problems relating to the implementation of the Settlement Plan and to try to agree upon a mutually acceptable political solution to their dispute over Western Sahara;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide an assessment of the situation before the end of the present mandate;

3. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

00-55109 (E)

Security Council

Distr.: General
27 July 2000

Resolution 1310 (2000)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 4177th meeting, on 27 July 2000

The Security Council,

Recalling its resolutions 425 (1978) and 426 (1978) of 19 March 1978, 501 (1982) of 25 February 1982, 508 (1982) of 5 June 1982, 509 (1982) of 6 June 1982 and 520 (1982) of 17 September 1982, as well as its resolutions on the situation in Lebanon and also its resolution 1308 (2000) of 17 July 2000,

Recalling also the statements of its President of 20 April 2000 (S/PRST/2000/13), 23 May 2000 (S/PRST/2000/18) and 18 June (S/PRST/2000/21) on the situation in Lebanon, in particular its endorsement of the work done by the United Nations as mandated by the Security Council including the Secretary-General's conclusion that as of 16 June 2000 Israel had withdrawn its forces from Lebanon in accordance with resolution 425 (1978) and met the requirements defined in the Secretary-General's report of 22 May 2000 (S/2000/460),

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) of 20 July 2000 (S/2000/718) and its observations and recommendations mentioned therein,

Emphasizing the interim nature of UNIFIL,

Recalling the relevant principles contained in the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel adopted on 9 December 1994,

Responding to the request of the Government of Lebanon, as stated in the letter from its Permanent Representative to the United Nations of 11 July 2000 to the Secretary-General (S/2000/674),

1. *Endorses* the understanding, mentioned in the report of the Secretary-General of 20 July 2000, that the Force will deploy and function fully throughout its area of operations and that the Government of Lebanon will strengthen its presence in this area, by deploying additional troops and internal security forces;

2. *Decides*, in this context, to extend the present mandate of UNIFIL for a further period of 6 months, until 31 January 2001;

3. *Reiterates* its strong support for the territorial integrity, sovereignty and political independence of Lebanon within its internationally recognized boundaries;

00-55543 (E)

4. *Welcomes* the statement in the Secretary-General's letter to the President of the Security Council of 24 July 2000 (S/2000/731) that, as of that date, the Government of Israel had removed all violations of the withdrawal line;

5. *Calls on* the parties to respect that line, to exercise utmost restraint and to cooperate fully with the United Nations and with UNIFIL;

6. *Calls on* the Government of Lebanon to ensure the return of its effective authority and presence in the south, and in particular to proceed with a significant deployment of the Lebanese armed forces as soon as possible;

7. *Welcomes* the establishment of checkpoints by the Government of Lebanon in the vacated area, and *encourages* the Government of Lebanon to ensure a calm environment throughout the south, including through the control of all checkpoints;

8. *Welcomes* the measures taken by the Secretary-General and the troop contributing countries regarding UNIFIL military personnel and deployment, as agreed to in the above-mentioned statements of its President, and *reaffirms* that the expected redeployment of UNIFIL should be conducted in coordination with the Government of Lebanon and the Lebanese armed forces;

9. *Re-emphasizes* the terms of reference and general guidelines of UNIFIL as stated in the report of the Secretary-General of 19 March 1978 (S/12611), approved by resolution 426 (1978);

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue consultations with the Government of Lebanon and other parties directly concerned on the implementation of this resolution and to report to the Security Council thereon;

11. *Looks forward* to the early fulfilment of the mandate of UNIFIL;

12. *Welcomes* the intention of the Secretary-General to submit to the Council by 31 October 2000 a report on progress towards achieving the objectives of resolution 425 (1978) and towards completion by UNIFIL of the tasks originally assigned to it, and *requests* the Secretary-General to include in this report recommendations on the tasks that could be carried out by the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO);

13. *Decides* to review the situation, by early November 2000, and to consider any steps it deems appropriate regarding UNIFIL, on the basis of this report, the extent of the deployment of UNIFIL and the actions taken by the Government of Lebanon to restore its effective authority and presence in the area, in particular through a significant deployment of the Lebanese armed forces;

14. *Stresses* the importance of, and the need to achieve, a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East, based on all its relevant resolutions including its resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973.

United Nations S/RES/1311 (2000)

Security Council

Distr.: General
28 July 2000

Resolution 1311 (2000)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 4179th meeting, on 28 July 2000

The Security Council,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 1287 (2000) of 31 January 2000, and the statement of its President of 11 May 2000 (S/PRST/2000/16), as well as resolution 1308 (2000) of 17 July 2000,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 21 July 2000 (S/2000/697),

Recalling the conclusions of the Lisbon (S/1997/57, annex) and Istanbul summits of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) regarding the situation in Abkhazia, Georgia,

Stressing that the lack of progress on key issues of a comprehensive settlement of the conflict in Abkhazia, Georgia, is unacceptable,

Recalling that, according to its statute, the Coordinating Council of the Georgian and Abkhaz sides should meet every two months, and *welcoming*, in this regard, the resumption of its work,

Welcoming the results of the tenth session of the Coordinating Council in Sukhumi on 11 July 2000, in particular the signing by the two sides, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the Commander of the Collective Peacekeeping Forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS peacekeeping force) of the protocol related to the stabilization of the situation in the security zone, and the decision that the two sides would accelerate work on the draft protocol on the return of refugees to the Gali region and measures for economic rehabilitation and on the draft agreement on peace and guarantees for the prevention for the non-resumption of hostilities,

Deeply concerned that, although currently relatively calm, the general situation in the conflict zone remains unstable,

Recalling the relevant principles contained in the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel adopted on 9 December 1994,

Welcoming the important contributions that the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) and the CIS peacekeeping force continue to make in

00-55819 (E)

stabilizing the situation in the zone of conflict, *noting* that the working relationship between UNOMIG and the CIS peacekeeping force has been excellent at all levels, *stressing* the importance of continuing and increasing close cooperation and coordination between them in the performance of their respective mandates, and *welcoming also* the decision on the extension of the stay of the CIS peacekeeping force in the conflict zone in Abkhazia, Georgia, adopted by the Council of Heads of State of the Commonwealth of Independent States on 21 June 2000 (S/2000/629),

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General of 21 July 2000;

2. *Strongly supports* the sustained efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Representative, with the assistance of the Russian Federation in its capacity as facilitator as well as of the Group of Friends of the Secretary-General and of the OSCE, to promote the stabilization of the situation and the achievement of a comprehensive political settlement, which includes a settlement on the political status of Abkhazia within the State of Georgia;

3. *Strongly supports*, also, the efforts of the Special Representative on the question of the distribution of competences between Tbilisi and Sukhumi, and, in particular, his intention to submit, in the near future, proposals to the parties as a basis for meaningful negotiations on that issue;

4. *Underlines* the responsibility of the parties to the conflict to engage in negotiations on the key outstanding issues in the United Nations-led peace process, including on the distribution of competences between Tbilisi and Sukhumi as part of a comprehensive settlement;

5. *Welcomes* the commitment of the parties not to use force for the resolution of any disputed questions, which must be addressed through negotiations and by peaceful means only, and to refrain from propaganda aimed at the solution of the conflict by force;

6. *Calls* on the parties to the conflict, also, to implement earlier agreed confidence-building measures and develop further measures on the basis of the relevant document signed in Sukhumi on 11 July 2000, and *recalls*, in this context, the invitation of the Government of Ukraine to host, in Yalta, a third meeting aimed at building confidence, improving security and developing cooperation between the parties;

7. *Reaffirms* the unacceptability of the demographic changes resulting from the conflict and the imprescriptible right of all refugees and displaced persons affected by the conflict to return to their homes in secure and dignified conditions, in accordance with international law and as set out in the Quadripartite Agreement of 4 April 1994 (S/1994/397, annex II), and *calls upon* the parties to address this issue urgently by agreeing and implementing effective measures to guarantee the security of those who exercise their unconditional right to return, including those who have already returned;

8. *Urges* the parties, in this context, to address urgently and in a concerted manner, as a first step, the undefined and insecure status of spontaneous returnees to the Gali district, including through the re-establishment of functioning local administrative structures in which the returnee population is appropriately represented;

9. *Welcomes* steps taken by the Government of Georgia, the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the World Bank, aiming at ensuring that the internally displaced persons enjoy their right to be treated in the same manner as all Georgian citizens with full respect, in principle and in practice, for their imprescriptible right to return to their homes in secure and dignified conditions;

10. *Deplores* all violent incidents, as well as the development of criminal activities, in the conflict zone, and *calls on* the two sides to take urgent measures to cooperate with each other in the fight against crime of all sorts and in improving the work of their respective law enforcement organs;

11. *Demands* that both sides observe strictly the Moscow Agreement of 14 May 1994 on a Ceasefire and Separation of Forces (S/1994/583, annex I);

12. *Welcomes* UNOMIG keeping its security arrangements under constant review in order to ensure the highest possible level of security for its staff;

13. *Decides* to extend the mandate of UNOMIG for a new period terminating on 31 January 2001, subject to a review by the Council of the mandate of UNOMIG in the event of any changes that may be made in the mandate or in the presence of the CIS peacekeeping force, and *expresses* its intention to conduct a thorough review of the operation at the end of its current mandate, in the light of steps taken by the parties to achieve a comprehensive settlement;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to keep the Council regularly informed and to report three months from the date of the adoption of this resolution on the situation in Abkhazia, Georgia;

15. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

United Nations S/RES/1312 (2000)

Security Council

Distr.: General
31 July 2000

Resolution 1312 (2000)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 4181st meeting, on 31 July 2000

The Security Council,

Recalling resolutions 1298 (2000) of 17 May 2000 and 1308 (2000) of 17 July 2000 and all its previous resolutions and statements of its President pertaining to the Ethiopia-Eritrea conflict,

Commending the Organization of African Unity (OAU) for successfully facilitating the Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities between the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and the Government of the State of Eritrea (S/2000/601), signed in Algiers on 18 June 2000,

Recalling the official communications by the Governments of Ethiopia (S/2000/627) and Eritrea (S/2000/612) of 30 and 26 June 2000 respectively to the Secretary-General requesting United Nations assistance in implementing the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement,

Recalling the relevant principles contained in the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel adopted on 9 December 1994,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General of 30 June 2000 (S/2000/643), and *recalling* the letter of its President endorsing the Secretary-General's decision to dispatch reconnaissance and liaison teams to the region (S/2000/676),

1. *Decides* to establish the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea consisting of up to 100 military observers and the necessary civilian support staff until 31 January 2001, in anticipation of a peacekeeping operation subject to future Council authorization, and to undertake the following mandate:

(a) to establish and maintain liaison with the parties;

(b) to visit the parties' military headquarters and other units in all areas of operation of the mission deemed necessary by the Secretary-General;

(c) to establish and put into operation the mechanism for verifying the cessation of hostilities;

(d) to prepare for the establishment of the Military Coordination Commission provided for in the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement;

00-58366 (E)

(e) to assist in planning for a future peacekeeping operation as necessary;

2. *Welcomes* the discussions between the Secretariats of the United Nations and the OAU on cooperation in the implementation of the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement;

3. *Calls* on the parties to provide the Mission with the access, assistance, support and protection required for the performance of its duties;

4. *Requests* the parties to facilitate the deployment of mine action experts and assets under the United Nations Mine Action Service to further assess the mine and unexploded ordnance problem and to provide technical assistance to the parties to carry out emergency mine action required;

5. *Decides* that the measures imposed by paragraph 6 of its resolution 1298 (2000) shall not apply to the sale or supply of equipment and related *matériel* for the use of the United Nations Mine Action Service, or to the provision of related technical assistance and training by that Service;

6. *Stresses* the importance of the rapid delimitation and demarcation of the common border between the parties in accordance with the OAU Framework Agreement (S/1998/1223, annex) and the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue planning for a peacekeeping operation and to begin to take the administrative measures for assembling such a mission, which would be subject to future Council authorization;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide periodic reports, as necessary, on the establishment and work of the Mission;

9. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

United Nations S/RES/1313 (2000)

Security Council

Distr.: General
4 August 2000

Resolution 1313 (2000)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 4184th meeting, on 4 August 2000

The Security Council,

Recalling all its previous resolutions and the statements of its President concerning the situation in Sierra Leone,

Condemning in the strongest terms the armed attacks against and detention of the personnel of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL), and *commending* UNAMSIL and the Force Commander for the recent resolute action taken in response to the continuing threat towards the mission from the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) and other armed elements in Sierra Leone,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General of 19 May 2000 (S/2000/455) and 31 July 2000 (S/2000/751),

1. *Decides* to extend the mandate of UNAMSIL until 8 September 2000;

2. *Considers* that the widespread and serious violations of the Lomé Peace Agreement (S/1999/777) by the RUF since early May 2000 constitute a breakdown of the prior generally permissive environment based on the Agreement and predicated on the cooperation of the parties, that until security conditions have been established allowing progress towards the peaceful resolution of the conflict in Sierra Leone there will continue to be a threat to UNAMSIL and the security of the state of Sierra Leone, and that in order to counter that threat, the structure, capability, resources and mandate of UNAMSIL require appropriate strengthening;

3. *Expresses* its intention, in this context, taking into account the views of the Government of Sierra Leone, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the troop-contributing countries, to strengthen the mandate of UNAMSIL as established in its resolutions 1270 (1999) of 22 October 1999 and 1289 (2000) of 7 February 2000 with the following priority tasks:

(a) To maintain the security of the Lungi and Freetown peninsulas, and their major approach routes;

(b) To deter and, where necessary, decisively counter the threat of RUF attack by responding robustly to any hostile actions or threat of imminent and direct use of force;

00-59196 (E)

(c) To deploy progressively in a coherent operational structure and in sufficient numbers and density at key strategic locations and main population centres and, in coordination with the Government of Sierra Leone to assist, through its presence and within the framework of its mandate, the efforts of the Government of Sierra Leone to extend state authority, restore law and order and further stabilize the situation progressively throughout the entire country, and, within its capabilities and areas of deployment, to afford protection to civilians under threat of imminent physical violence;

(d) To patrol actively on strategic lines of communication, specifically main access routes to the capital in order to dominate ground, ensure freedom of movement and facilitate the provision of humanitarian assistance;

(e) To assist in the promotion of the political process leading, *inter alia*, to a renewed disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme where possible;

4. *Considers* that, in order to allow the restructuring of the force and provide the additional capability required for the achievement of the priority tasks set out in paragraph 3 above, the military component of UNAMSIL should be reinforced through accelerated troop rotations, as appropriate, and with, *inter alia*, further aviation and maritime assets, a strengthened force reserve, upgraded communications and specialist combat and logistic support assets;

5. *Recognizes* that the RUF offensive against UNAMSIL since May 2000 revealed serious inherent weaknesses in the mission's structure, command and control and resources, as referred to in paragraph 54 of the report of the Secretary-General of 31 July 2000, reflecting findings of the United Nations Assessment Mission which visited Sierra Leone from 31 May to 8 June 2000, *welcomes* the recommendations made and action already taken to address these deficiencies, and *requests* the Secretary-General to take further urgent steps to implement these recommendations to improve the performance and capacity of the mission;

6. *Stresses* that the successful achievement of the objectives of the mission, including the priority tasks set out in paragraph 3 above, will depend on the provision to UNAMSIL of fuliy equipped, complete units, with the required capabilities, effective command and control structure and capacity, a single chain of command, adequate resources and the commitment to implement the mandate of the mission in full as authorized by the Security Council;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, after further consultations with troop contributing countries, to provide a further report to the Council as soon as possible on the proposals in paragraphs 2 to 6 above with recommendations for the restructuring and strengthening of UNAMSIL, and *expresses* its intention to take a decision on those recommendations expeditiously;

8. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

United Nations S/RES/1314 (2000)

Security Council

Distr. General
11 August 2000

Resolution 1314 (2000)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 4185th meeting, on 11 August 2000

The Security Council,

Recalling its resolution 1261 (1999) of 28 August 1999,

Further recalling its resolutions 1265 (1999) of 17 September 1999, 1296 (2000) of 19 April 2000, 1306 (2000) of 5 July 2000 and the statements of its President of 29 June 1998 (S/PRST/1998/18), 12 February 1999 (S/PRST/1999/6), 8 July 1999 (S/PRST/1999/21), 30 November 1999 (S/PRST/1999/34) and 20 July 2000 (S/PRST/25),

Welcoming the adoption by the General Assembly on 25 May 2000 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict,

Bearing in mind the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and the primary responsibility of the Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Underlining the need for all parties concerned to comply with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and with the rules and principles of international law, in particular international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, and to implement fully the relevant decisions of the Security Council, *and recalling* the relevant provisions on the protection of children contained in International Labour Organization Convention No. 182 on the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and the Ottawa Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,

Noting the regional initiatives on war-affected children, including within the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the West African Conference on War-Affected Children held in Accra, Ghana, in April 2000, and the forthcoming International Conference on War-Affected Children to be held in Winnipeg, Canada from 10 to 17 September 2000,

00-60403 (E)

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 19 July 2000 on the implementation of resolution 1261 (1999) on Children and Armed Conflict (S/2000/712),

1. *Reaffirms* its strong condemnation of the deliberate targeting of children in situations of armed conflict and the harmful and widespread impact of armed conflict on children, and the long-term consequences this has for durable peace, security and development;

2. *Emphasizes* the responsibility of all States to put an end to impunity and to prosecute those responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, and, in this regard, *stresses* the need to exclude these, where feasible, from amnesty provisions and relevant legislation;

3. *Urges* all parties to armed conflict to respect fully international law applicable to the rights and protection of children in armed conflict, in particular the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the obligations applicable to them under the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child of 1989 and the Optional Protocol thereto of 25 May 2000, and to bear in mind the relevant provisions of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;

4. *Urges* Member States in a position to do so to sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict;

5. *Expresses* support for the ongoing work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, other parts of the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations dealing with children affected by armed conflict;

6. *Urges* Member States and parties to armed conflict to provide protection and assistance to refugees and internally displaced persons, as appropriate, the vast majority of whom are women and children;

7. *Calls upon* all parties to armed conflict to ensure the full, safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel and the delivery of humanitarian assistance to all children affected by armed conflict;

8. *Expresses its grave concern* at the linkages between the illicit trade in natural resources and armed conflict, as well as the linkages between the illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons and armed conflict, which can prolong armed conflict and intensify its impact on children, and in this regard *expresses* its intention to consider taking appropriate steps, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

9. *Notes* that the deliberate targeting of civilian populations or other protected persons, including children, and the committing of systematic, flagrant and widespread violations of international humanitarian and human rights law, including that relating to children, in situations of armed conflict may constitute a threat to international peace and security, and in this regard *reaffirms* its readiness to consider such situations and, where necessary to adopt appropriate steps;

10. *Urges* all parties to abide by the concrete commitments they have made to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict as well as relevant United Nations bodies to ensure the protection of children in situations of armed conflict;

11. *Requests* parties to armed conflict to include, where appropriate, provisions for the protection of children, including the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of child combatants, in peace negotiations and in peace agreements and the involvement of children, where possible, in these processes;

12. *Reaffirms* its readiness to continue to include, where appropriate, child protection advisers in future peacekeeping operations;

13. *Underlines* the importance of giving consideration to the special needs and particular vulnerabilities of girls affected by armed conflict, including, *inter alia*, those heading households, orphaned, sexually exploited and used as combatants, and *urges* that their human rights, protection and welfare be incorporated in the development of policies and programmes, including those for prevention, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration;

14. *Reiterates* the importance of ensuring that children continue to have access to basic services during the conflict and post-conflict periods, including, *inter alia*, education and health care;

15. *Indicates its willingness*, when imposing measures under Article 41 of the Charter of the United Nations, to consider assessing the potential unintended consequences of sanctions on children and to take appropriate steps to minimize such consequences;

16. *Welcomes* recent initiatives by regional and subregional organizations and arrangements for the protection of children affected by armed conflict, and *urges* them to:

(a) Consider establishing, within their secretariats, child protection units for the development and implementation of policies, activities and advocacy for the benefit of children affected by armed conflict, including children in the design and implementation of such policies and programmes where possible;

(b) Consider including child protection staff in their peace and field operations and providing training to members of their peace and field operations on the rights and protection of women and children;

(c) Undertake initiatives to curb the cross-border activities deleterious to children in times of armed conflict, such as the cross-border recruitment and abduction of children, the illicit movement of small arms and the illicit trade in natural resources;

(d) Allocate resources, as applicable, during policy and programme development for the benefit of children affected by armed conflict;

(e) Integrate a gender perspective into all policies, programmes and projects;

(f) Consider declaring regional initiatives towards full implementation of the prohibition of the use of child soldiers in violation of international law;

17. *Encourages* Member States, relevant parts of the United Nations system and regional organizations and arrangements to undertake efforts to obtain the release of children abducted during armed conflict and their family reunification;

18. *Urges* Member States and relevant parts of the United Nations system to strengthen the capacities of national institutions and local civil society for ensuring the sustainability of local initiatives for the protection of children;

19. *Calls on* Member States, relevant parts of the United Nations system, and civil society to encourage the involvement of young persons in programmes for peace consolidation and peace-building;

20. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to include in his written reports to the Council on matters of which the Council is seized, as appropriate, observations relating to the protection of children in armed conflict;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Security Council on the implementation of this resolution and of resolution 1261 (1999) by 31 July 2001;

22. *Decides* to remain actively seized of this matter.